



Elam United Methodist Church

Explore (ek-splor): to investigate; to examine; to study for the purpose of discovery

Our newsletter invites you to explore Elam, our village. Embark on a journey to discover more about our faith, our church, our missions, our ministries, and our people. Send articles, poetry, stories, and good news to Mary in the office.

Worship Services

Sunday

8:15 a.m. in Chapel

Casual Worship

9:30 a.m. in Sanctuary

Traditional Worship

Nursery for infants-2 years

(Children's Day Out

Classroom)

Church School 2 yrs.-PreK

(Children's Day Out

Classroom)

K-6 meet in chapel

7-8 meet in Room 208

9-12 meet in Room 209

Saturday

5:30 p.m. in Chapel

Communion Service

We are on the web!
www.elamumc.org

EXPLORING ELAM

February/March 2012

A Message from Our Pastor

"Tonight all of you will desert me," Jesus told them. "For the Scriptures say, 'God will strike the Shepherd, and the sheep of the flock will be scattered. But after I have been raised from the dead, I will go ahead of you to Galilee and meet you there.' Peter declared, 'Even if everyone else deserts you, I never will.' 'Peter,' Jesus replied, 'The truth is, this very night before the rooster crows, you will deny me three times.' 'No!' Peter insisted, 'Not even if I have to die with you! I will never deny you!' and all the other disciples vowed the same."
(Matthew 26:31-35)

It's sometimes amazing the lengths to which persons will go to capitalize on a name. Did you ever hear of the four Canadians who legally changed their surnames, from Dunlop to Dunlop-Tire? For doing this, each of them pocketed \$6,250.00 worth of prize money, offered by Good-year Canada Inc. which markets Dunlop tires in Canada. A San Diego man offered to change his name and shave his head so a company logo could be painted on it. A New York couple even tried to auction naming rights to their newborn with bids starting at \$500,000. What will people think of next? There is quite literally something in humanity, in us, which would sell-out our own name just to get what we think is important for the moment.

On the other hand, there is

the other side of humanity too. We witness the heroic rescue efforts of the NYPD and NY firefighters in the tragic aftermath of 9/11. We see persons – such as Mother Teresa – who gave up a life of luxury to serve the poor and undesirables, the untouchable class in Calcutta. Isn't this the story of our humanity? In us is a mix of heroism, a mix of cowardice, and a mix of sinfulness? Yet in that mix is the image of the Creator, who is love and who is good, who is beautiful and perfect and holy. The Lenten season, which will soon be upon us, is a great time to take a look at the contradictions we find within ourselves – to take a look at how truly mixed up we can be.

In the Scripture above, we find the same thing can be said about Peter. In Matthew 16, Jesus called him

the Rock. Above, the Rock says that he will never disown Jesus, even to the point of death. Here's the same guy who jumped out of a boat and walked on water for a few moments, because he saw his Lord doing so. Of course, in short order he took his eyes off of Jesus, fear set in, and he nearly went under. Peter was also one of several disciples privileged to see Jesus in glorified state – when his clothes became white as light. Jesus was transfigured right before a few disciples.

However, when Jesus begins to say that he must go to Jerusalem and suffer many things at the hands of the elders, chief priests and teachers of the law and that he must be killed so as to rise on the third day, it is Peter who rebukes him. It is Peter

A Message from Our Pastor (Cont'd.)

who says “Never Lord. This shall never happen to you.” In response to these words, Jesus replies, “Get behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling block to me; you do not have in mind the things of God, but the things of men.” Peter had been seduced by the expectations his tradition had placed on the Messiah. Here too is the Peter who did eventually deny his Lord three times on the night that Jesus was arrested.

In one way or another, he is very much like all of us. Peter was a complex person; because no one is truly one-dimensional. At different times and under different circumstances Peter behaved in different manners. At times he was timid and weak, cowering before accusers. At other times he was bold and heroic, standing up against those in positions of power. In his passionate way, not understanding God’s purposes, he even stood up to Jesus when he said, “Never Lord, this shall never happen to you”. Are we all not like that? We are complex, not merely one-dimensional? All of us have walked the same road as Peter. Acted bravely then suddenly become fearful? We’ve wondered to ourselves: “Will the real I stand up?” or “Who am I?”

One answer to the real you and me is found in words expressed by the Apostle Paul in the book of Romans: *I don’t understand myself at all, for I really want to do what is right, but I don’t do it. Instead, I do the very thing I hate. I know perfectly well that what I am doing is wrong, and my bad conscience shows that I agree that the law is good... I know I am rotten through and through so far as my old sinful nature is concerned. No matter which way I*

We are complex, not merely one-dimensional? All of us have walked the same road as Peter. Acted bravely then suddenly become fearful. We’ve wondered to ourselves “Will the real I stand up?” or “Who am I?”

turn, I can’t make myself do right. I want to, but I can’t. When I want to do good, I don’t. And when I try not to do wrong, I do it anyway.... It seems to be a fact of life that when I want to do what is right, I inevitably do what is wrong. I love God’s law with all my heart. But there is another law at work within me that is at war with my mind. This law wins the fight and makes me a slave to the sin that is still within me. Oh, what a miserable person I am! Who will free me from this life that is dominated by sin? [New Living Translation Romans 7:15-24]

The inconsistency we see in Peter’s behavior is mirrored here by Paul’s struggle too. It’s an inconsistency that leads naturally to the response we find Paul voicing... *“what a miserable person I am! Who will free me?”* So how did Peter and Paul face this struggle? well neither of them stood frozen in time. Each was to accomplish extraordinary things for our Lord. Peter became a pillar—Jesus called him a Rock—of the early church and Paul was the unparalleled church planter in the early church. The key behind the transformation of both men is really rather simple. They were men who had been in the presence—Peter actually with Jesus and Paul with the ongoing presence of the Holy Spirit. Moreover, they were persons who had a confident public faith. Here’s what I want you to know this Easter season. The real you can stand up and receive God’s love today. The real you can find peace with God today. The real you can be received with all the mixed up motives—good and bad—and find a loving restoration and a renewed sense of mission. May this indeed be so for you this Lenten Season!

New Members Being Received

New members will be received into the Elam church family on Sunday, February 26th, at the 9:30 service. If interested in becoming a member of Elam, please contact Pastor John at 610-459-2911 or email him at pastorjohn@elamumc.org.

Jesus' Promise

"Peace I leave with you, my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not be afraid."

John 14:27

Jesus spoke these words to his disciples as he promised them that the presence of the Holy Spirit would be with them after he was gone. The peace that Jesus speaks of is not worldly peace or the absence of conflict but a peace that assures us that we are never alone. This peace that Jesus speaks of encourages us to feel confident trusting in the Holy presence to enter into our hearts and our spirits and to put the hostile forces within us at rest, bringing us comfort. This is a powerful gift offered to us

through Christ's words; a promise that is available to us if we are willing to accept it.

When life seems to be filled with stress and discord take time to read and re-read this promise spoken by Jesus who desires peace for each of us. As you seek peace you might want to use these words as a mantra that you whisper during the day remembering that as you do so you are calling on the Holy Spirit to assure you that in all life's circumstances we need have no fear of being alone.

"A Prayer for Courage" by Julie Pimlott

God of ages past, God of ages to come, you see our lives of today.

We praise and thank you for the comfort that comes from realizing you have always been with us.

We praise and thank you for your presence in our future, in our growing, in our stumbling, in our changing.

We seek you today to find strength for the journey.

We confess our need for greater faith to trust in your guiding hand, and we ask your forgiveness for the times to come when our human frailty keeps us from resting in your ways and time.

We seek you today to find courage for the journey.

Holy Spirit, grant us creativity and open hearts to rise to the challenge of serving you in an ever-changing world.

Grant us boldness to step out in faith in ways that reveal your radical, unconditional love.

As we lift our prayers, may we be filled even now with your strength and courage. May we shed our fears in the knowledge that it is the power of your grace and love that gives life to our offerings of service to your creation. In the name of Jesus Christ, our hope and strength.

Amen.



Thoughts on the Feeding of Five-Thousand - Philip or Andrew?

After this Jesus went to the other side of the Sea of Galilee, also called the Sea of Tiberius. A large crowd kept following him, because they saw the signs that he was doing for the sick. Jesus went up the mountain and sat down there with his disciples. Now the Passover, the festival of the Jews was near. When he looked up and saw a large crowd coming toward him, Jesus said to Philip, "Where are we to buy bread for these people to eat?" He said this to test him, for he himself knew what he was going to do. Philip answered him, "Six months' wages would not buy enough bread for each of them to get a little." One of his disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, said to him, "There is a boy here who has five barley loaves and two fish. But what are they among so many people?"

John 6:1-9

We are seeing a goodly number of large crowds gathering in our big cities lately. There are crowds protesting the state of the economy and the plight of the poor in this nation. There are crowds looking for answers, for relief, for justice. Long ago a crowd followed Jesus up a mountain. They followed him because he was the answer to their physical ills and the hunger of their souls. But Jesus was also concerned about their physical sustenance. He cared that they had food to eat while they were on this pilgrimage.

Jesus still cares about our bodies, what we eat, what we drink, what we put on. On that day there seemed to be a lack of food for a crowd of that size. And there we meet two disciples who have two different approaches to the problem:

They are Philip and Andrew. Phillip's approach was practical but faithless: "Six months' wages would not buy enough bread for each of them to get a little." Don't we often feel that way when confronted with the staggering realities of world poverty and need? In our own strength and our own resources there is little hope to feed this hungry world. We sometimes get so overwhelmed that we just want to say it is impossible and give up.

Then there is Andrew. Equally aware of the enormity of the need, he looks around for an answer anyway. He locates a humble lunch that a boy was willing to donate. He admits it is not much to offer

given the need, he offers it anyway. We can be like Philip and throw our hands up in despair or we can also be like Andrew and do something even a small thing. That small thing made all the difference in the world because from it the miracle of the multiplication of the loaves and fishes came to be. This miracle is so central to the truth of the gospel that it is the only miracle that is recorded in all four.

The text says that Jesus asked Philip where he would find bread for the crowd because he was testing him. Jesus knew what he was going to do. Still today Jesus knows what he is going to do. He is going to use the likes of Andrew in this world who offer what they can to turn the world upside down and care for the needs of the poor.

So you don't have to have all the answers...just lunch...just lunch and Jesus will do the rest. What do you have in your hand that you can offer to God to take and break and bless and multiply for the use of the kingdom? Habitat for Humanity was begun in 1976 with a couple with a tool box and a truck and God did the rest. Michelangelo had a cast-off piece of marble that he got from a dump and God used that humble stone to create the famous statue of King David. God will take whatever you have to offer him to bless and feed a hungry world.

Be an Andrew. It is how the kingdom of God works here on earth.

Bishop Peggy A. Johnson

Monday Morning Book Group

Elam's Monday Morning Book Group has been meeting over the years to read and discuss books that offer us an interesting plot and allow us to discuss our personal faith journey as well.

We have read such books as Anita Diamant's "The Red Tent", Ann Rice's "Out of Egypt" that painted a picture of Jesus' life as a young boy and most recently "The Faith Club", which helped us in understanding Jewish and Islamic faith practices. Following our reading of this book we were fortunate in having a rabbi and an imam visit with us to discuss their faith and answer our questions.



Perhaps you're looking for a way to gather with a group of folks and read some interesting books, especially during the winter months. We'll be meeting on February 6th and 13th at 9:30 a.m. to discuss "Dinner with a Perfect Stranger" by David Gregory, an interesting book about a man's invitation to have dinner with Jesus. If you're interested, please get a copy of the book and join us then, or call Randy Schaffer at 610-459-2911 or email her at randy@elamumc.org for further details.

Children's Clothing Turnabout

This year's spring Children's Clothing Turnabout will be in the Pierce Family Life Center as follows:

Consign: Wednesday, March 7 5:00-7:45 p.m.

Shop: Thursday, March 8 &

Friday, March 9 9:00 a.m.-7:30 p.m.

Saturday, March 10 8:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

Items ½ price on Saturday, *unless marked with a red dot.*

Pick up unsold items:

Saturday, March 10 1:00-3:45 p.m.

Consignor Payout: TBA

Instruction sheets and packets are now available from the desk next to the elevator in front welcoming area.

Items to be consigned: spring/summer children's clothing sizes newborn to size 16. Due to limited space absolutely no adult and fall/winter clothing will be ac-

cepted. Please be highly selective about the articles you consign.

PLEASE NOTE: No drop side cribs will be accepted.

Any questions, please call Alice Lawler at 610-444-1262 or email her at

skamom2000@yahoo.com.



Serving Team News



Twenty boxes from Elam were delivered to Christ United Methodist Church, from there to Boone, NC, and from Boone to around the world. We followed five Elam boxes online to learn their destination:

Box 1—Iraq

Thirty-eight percent of Iraq's 30.4 million people are 14-years-old or younger. In the 2011-2012 season, 93,600 shoebox gifts will be delivered to children in Iraq, which first received the gifts in 1997. Since then, 967,167 children in Iraq have received a shoebox gift.

Box 2—Mali

Forty-seven percent of Mali's 14.1 million people are 14-years-old or younger. In the 2011-2012 season, 129,600 shoebox gifts will be delivered to children in Mali, which first received the gifts in 2005. Since then, 282,261 children in Mali have received a shoebox gift. In 2010, Operation Christmas

Child began offering a new, follow-up discipleship program to our ministry partners in conjunction with the shoebox gifts. This year in Mali, these Bible lessons will be offered to 8,400 children who receive a shoebox gift.

Box 3—Baltics and Balkans

Gift boxes were first delivered to the Baltic and Balkan countries in 1995. Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania comprise the Baltic Countries; and Balkan countries include Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Kosovo, Macedonia, Montenegro and Serbia. Since the first boxes were distributed, more than 9,954,965 children in the region have received a shoebox gift. In the 2011-2012 season more than 70,000 shoebox gifts will be distributed to children throughout these countries.



Box 4—Lesotho

Thirty-four percent of Lesotho's 1.9 million people are 14-years-old or younger. In the 2011-2012 season, 7,200 shoebox gifts will be delivered to children in Lesotho, which first received the gifts in 1999. Since then 72,687 children in Lesotho have received a shoebox gift.

Box 5—Niger

Fifty percent of Niger's 16.4 million people are 14-years-old or younger. In the 2011-2012 season, 57,600 shoebox gifts will be delivered to children in Niger, which first received the gifts in 2005. Since then 119,894 children in Niger have received a shoebox gift.

We will be celebrating "Christmas in July" with Operation Christmas Child by collecting items to package more boxes for the 2012 Christmas season.

Baking at Ronald McDonald House

Kerry Kulp is very active with the Ronald McDonald House at A.I. DuPont Hospital in Wilmington, DE. She recently invited others from the congregation to join her there to do some baking. Bev Downie, Becky Hynek, Beth James, Sue Kardine, Mary Kirkner, Pat Howard and Andrée Tyagi responded to the invite. Cupcakes, muffins, brownies, cookies and breads were made for the families staying at the Ronald McDonald House while their children are there.

Ronald McDonald House is the non-profit corporation that operates a “home-away-from-home” for families with seriously or chronically ill or injured children from newborn to 21 years old. They are always look-

ing for volunteers. Jobs range from receptionist to family room volunteer or helping with fund-raising events. Churches and companies prepare meals each night, and breakfast and dinner on weekends. If interested in volunteering, contact Kerry at kerry12355@verizon.net. This is a wonderful outreach.



The Souper Bowl of Caring

In Romans 12:13 we are told: *Share with God's people who are in need. Practice hospitality.* This congregation certainly obeys that command.

On Sunday, February 5th, more than 140 million people will tune in for the FOOTBALL Super Bowl. Our church will also have our S-O-U-P-E-R Bowl (of Caring).

The Souper Bowl of Caring is a grassroots, faith-based crusade against hunger. We are joining other churches, schools, organizations and individuals across the country to fight hunger and poverty by collecting dollars in soup pots. What is collected stays in the community to help fight hunger, but we report our total to the Souper Bowl of Caring headquarters so that they can come up with a grand total.

In 2010 over 13,000 groups raised over \$10 million for soup kitchens, food banks and other helping charities. Since the Souper Bowl of Caring began in 1990, over

\$60 million has been given to help those in need. The Souper Bowl of Caring most often benefits local food banks and soup kitchens, but world hunger organizations, denominational missions and other international ministries have also been recipients of Souper Bowl of Caring dollars.

Elam will celebrate the Souper Bowl of Caring by collecting soup cans as we enter worship on February 5th, and by collecting dollars in soup pots at the end of the service. Our coffee fellowship after the 9:30 service will be hosted by the Serving Team, as we continue to celebrate the Souper Bowl of Caring.

May God bless our gifts.





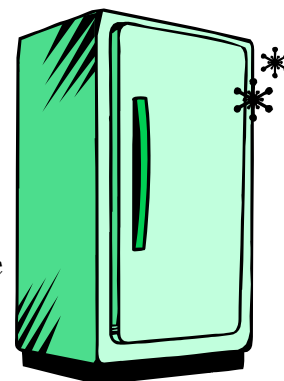
Happy New Year to you all. As we begin 2012, the United Methodist Women would like to invite all the women in the church to be a part of our group. There are different events going on all through the year. We would love to have some new faces at our meetings and more help at our events.

The women will be making Easter candy in the near future. If you have never made homemade candy, this would be a perfect opportunity to try it. Everyone is welcome to come. Check your bulletin for further information as the time gets closer.

Also, the women would like to thank Ron Hoffman for donating two very nice griddles. We really appreciate his thoughtfulness. I think there might be a few more pancake breakfasts in our future now.



We have also purchased a freezer, which is located in the kitchen of the Pierce Family Life Center. The freezer was bought with memorial money for Doris Gicker. We still miss you, wonderful friend.



The United Methodist Women would like everyone to have a very happy, healthy and rewarding New Year. Come out if you can, get involved even if it's in a small way. The more the merrier. You'll be glad you did.

Bonnie Eroh and Beverly Downie

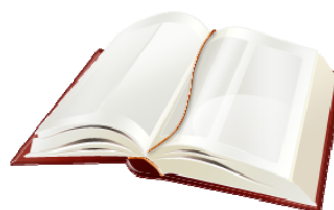
Co-Presidents

The Midday Circle of Friends

The Midday Circle of Friends invite you for a presentation on "Downsizing" on Thursday, February 23rd, at 11:00 a.m. in the conference room. Beverages and dessert will be provided and we will order out for pizza. Please contact Deanna Finn (610-459-1242) or Pat Howard (610-485-7237) if you plan to attend.

Our March meeting is Thursday, the 29th at noon at the home of Dorothy Dean, 804 Meadow Court, Glen Mills. We will do a book review on

Tatiana de Rosnay's book "Sarah's Key". Please call Dorothy at 610-459-0384 if you plan to attend. Lunch will be provided



Elam Cemetery Update

Did you know that in our beautiful cemetery behind Elam Church there are names of deceased dating back to the 1800s?

Did you know that there is a link on the Elam web page www.elamumc.org for the cemetery? You'll be able to see the Elam history that's been uncovered so far and archived for future generations.

The Cemetery Committee continues entering and scanning data into

www.webcemeteries.com. However, we still need more information to complete the job.

If you have a loved one or a friend or even a neighbor resting in our cemetery, don't assume that we have the information for that person. We may not. Contact *Brad Stanton* (610-459-8568 email: rotarydgl1995@verizon.net) or *Sue Kardine* (610-358-2670 email sdkardine@comcast.net) to help us complete our files. We can supply you with a form to help with the information gathering.



Another aspect that would greatly help us would be to assign a contact person for the grave(s). That way we have someone to call if there are questions.

Also, our burials back in the 1800s have *very* little information. Sometime it is just a name of the deceased. We would be grateful for help with those as well.

Just a thought: consider your help as a gift of love to your deceased *and* to the cemetery project.

For those of you who have supplied us with information, *thank you*. We really appreciate your help in making our files as accurate and complete as possible.

If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord. So, whether we live or die, we belong to the Lord.
Romans 14:8

Daylight Savings Time Begins



Daylight Savings Time begins on Sunday, March 11th. Don't forget to turn your clocks forward on Saturday, March 10th. You really wouldn't want to miss church during Lent.



Sunday, January 8th, was National Choir Appreciation Sunday. Note of thanks to all of our choirs—singing and ringing—for their dedication to the worship experience here at Elam. A special thank you to Angela DeMarro, our choir director, and Pat Clark, our organist, for their hard work throughout 2011, especially Christmas and Easter.

New members are welcome to join any of our choirs any time:

Jubilate Choir (adult traditional)

Rehearses every Wednesday from 7:30-9:00 p.m.

And sings every week at the 9:30 service.

Hallelujah Ringers (adult handbell choir)

Rehearses every Tuesday from 7:15-8:15 p.m.

Rings every 2nd Sunday at the 9:30 service

Morning Stars (adult Southern Gospel)

Rehearses every 1st & 3rd Wednesday of each month

Sings every 4th Sunday at the 9:30 service

Children's Choirs (PreK-5th Grade)

Practice during Sunday School opening in chapel

Sing regularly at the 9:30 service.

KICs (Kids in Christ teen choir)

Rehearses each Sunday from 11:00 a.m.–12:30 p.m.

Sings regularly at the 9:30 service, as well as preparing for a spring tour.

For more information, call Mary in the church office at 610-459-2911 or email Angela DeMarro at angdem@msn.com.



The Passion Play will be presented at the Saturday 5:30 p.m. and the Sunday 9:30 a.m. services on March 31st and April 1st. More details will follow in the next newsletter.

Dare the churches try to get along?

A series of films about the early church shown on PBS made the point that the early church dwelt in diversity. As churches in various locations developed, their leaders stressed whatever part of the Gospel they appreciated the most—also whatever style of worship. The Corinthian Christians had their unique approach as did the Christians at Ephesus, Philippi, Galatia, Rome and so on.

Yes, they all believed that Jesus was Lord and that the resurrection was at the heart of the faith. They all also celebrated the Lord's supper and baptism. They had much in common in styles of worship. Still there were variances, even as today. Then, as now, there were charismatics, those who stressed prophecy, or celibacy, or fasting or healing, etc.

What about the various approaches of Christian churches today? Well it is doubtful that we will all believe and practice completely alike. In fact, it might be boring if we did. But maybe Charles Best, a Presbyterian pastor in Pennsylvania, had a point when he said to a reporter interviewing him about Christian unity: "If we're going to be in heaven together, we might as well get along now."

Children's Chatter

We are gearing up for our 2012-2013 registration for Hearts and Hands Preschool and Children's Day Out Programs.

Registration Dates:

Current preschool, CDO & Kinderbunch families and church members register January 19th at 9:15 a.m. (Snow Date: January 24th at 9:15 a.m.)

Open registration for preschool, Children's Day out and Kinderbunch is January 26th at 9:15 a.m. (snow date: January 31st at 9:15 a.m.)



Extended Day Programs Available

Lunchtime, crafts, music, movement, indoor/outdoor gross motor play.

Lunchbunch

Extend your child's preschool day
Afternoons: 11:30-1:00 p.m.
or 11:30-2:30 p.m.

Kinderbunch

Extend your child's kindergarten day
11:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m.

Garnet valley will bus kindergarten students to our school



Safe Sanctuaries is a plan that provides for the protection of children, youth and vulnerable adults when they are on our property or traveling under our supervision.

In July of 2011 the Elam Leadership Council approved a revision to our Safe Sanctuaries Policy and it was put into effect with the start of the 2011 Sunday school year. Copies of the full policy are available in the church office.

The policy is a practical plan for prevention of child abuse. It covers standard contact information, experience and qualifications, voluntary disclosure of past criminal his-

tory or allegations of criminal history, a waiver to allow the church to do background checks and references. Our Sunday School, Preschool and youth leaders have all had to review and sign the policy. Anyone in contact with children and youth in our programs will be expected to operate under this policy. Our plan covers the areas of screening, supervision, reporting procedures and a response plan.

In the world that we live in today, we must each do our part in protecting our children and youth.



If we do not already have your email address, please contact the church office with it. You can email the office at mary@elamumc.org If we have your email address it means you can receive the e-News, and other important information like cancellations for services or meetings due to bad weather or other reasons.

Haiti: Second Anniversary

January 12, 2012, marked the second anniversary of the earthquake in Haiti that killed more than 200,000 people, including UMCOR and General Board of Global Ministries executives Sam Dixon and Clinton Rabb.

UMCOR has worked tirelessly since the earthquake to bring restoration, healing, and hope to the people of Haiti. In the early recovery phase, which continues today, UMCOR's work has been facilitated by our strong connections forged over decades of service in Haiti. Together with our partners, UMCOR is advancing work in the fields of education, health and hygiene, shelter and reconstruction livelihoods, and capacity strengthening.

Read more about UMCOR's work in the Two Year Progress Report.

UMCOR continues its work in Haiti to be there and be hope.



30-Hour Famine

Did you know that nearly one billion people go hungry every day? Did you know that a child dies of hunger related issues every 8-12 seconds? Did you know that 2.6 billion people live on less than \$2/day? Did you know that WE CAN HELP STOP HUNGER!

It's true! And we're starting now! Elam's youth are partnering with youth groups from around our area and with World Vision to put a stop to hunger. On February 24-25 we'll be holding our annual 30-Hour Famine where we raise money to help the hunger in our world. Every dollar that we raise feeds one child for one day. Last year we raised over \$5,000 to help the world's most impoverished kids. We believe that God will use us to help those around us who are in need. So we're going to go out into our community and work at homeless shelters and retirement communities. We'll travel to Philadelphia and give out lunches to the homeless and run

a canned food drive in Glen Mills area. As the body of Christ at Elam we're going to run a coat drive and hygiene drive to help the homeless and those who are in need. We are accepting donations of body powder, sweat socks, deodorant, chapstick, soap, shampoo, men's underwear, gloves, feminine hygiene products, toothpaste and toothbrushes that can be dropped off in the side foyer until February 24th.

We're going out of our comfort zones to help those that God calls us to love. Paul says, "Don't let anyone look down on you because you are young, but set an example for the believers in speech, in life, in love, in faith and in purity." So, if you want to be a part of this awesome experience email me at bukethed21@aol.com or call me at 484-368-2303 and find out how you can join us as we seek to be the hands and feet of Jesus to a hurting world.

In Christ, Joey Forwood



Elam's Leadership List

The Leadership Council

Chairperson—Steve Bohner
 Vice-Chairperson—Randy Schaffer
 Co-Treasurers—Janet Roushey & Nancy George
 Secretary—Deb Topka
 Randy Schaffer—Inviting Team Coordinator
 Sandi McCall—Caring Team Coordinator
 Pastor John—Worshipping Team Coordinator
 Alice Lawler—Exploring Team Coordinator
 Becky Hynek—Serving Team Coordinator
 Tom Dickerson—President, Board of Trustees
 Charles Kitselman—Chair, Staff-Parish Relations & Lay Leader
 Donna Grier—Chair, Finance Committee
 Andrée Tyagi—Chair, Communications Committee
 Bryan Reasons—Chair, Investment Committee
 Bev Downie & Bonnie Eroh—Co-Presidents UMW
 Judy Springer (Jan.-May 2012)—Early Childhood Development Board Chair
 Harry Ashman—Lay Member to Annual Conference
 Alice Lawler—Superintendent of Sunday School
 Jack Lawler—Early Childhood Development Board Rep.
 Joey Forwood—Youth Ministries Representative
 Angela DeMarro—Music Program Representative
 Zack Hathaway—Youth Representative
 Dorothy Dean and Todd Springer—At Large Members

Board of Trustees Members

Tom Dickerson—President
 Jesse Cheyney—Vice-President
 Bill Carter Bill Dilcher Deanna Finn
 Ron Hoffman Bob Lawler Mike Salvatore
 Wayne Schaffer

Staff-Parish Relations Committee

Charles Kitselman—Chair
 Sue Baumes Rich Gatchell Sue Kardine
 Rhonda Lawthers Clem Murray Barb Nicholas
 George Phillips Karen Smith

Finance Committee

Donna Grier—Chair
 Todd Springer—Vice-Chair
 Janet Roushey & Nancy George—Co-Treasurers
 Jane Sabol—Financial Secretary
 Heather Hogan and Alan Miller—At Large

Nominations Committee

Harry Ashman George Davis
 Dorothy Dean Bonnie Eroh
 Jack Lawler Barb Nicholas

Investment Team

Bryan Reasons—Chair
 Todd Springer—Finance Appointee

Strategic Action Team

Dorothy Dean Tom Dickerson Bonnie Eroh
 Charles Kitselman Jack Lawler Deb Topka

Communications Committee

Andrée Tyagi—Chair
 Mary Kerasavich Ginny Lockwood Rodger Stahl

FUNdraising Committee

Sandi Dill Alice Lawler Helen Malloy
 Bob Pace Janine Phillips Linda Simonuv

Vacation Bible School

Stacey Chandler—Director

Cemetery Committee

Brad Stanton—Chair
 Harry Ashman Bill Carter Bill Dilcher

Music & Program Staff

John Pritchard—Saturday Evening Worship Celebrant
 Randy Schaffer—Minister of Spiritual Enrichment
 Chris & Carl Bless—Coord. of Congregational Min.
 Judy Dilcher—Librarian
 Angela DeMarro—Minister of Music & Jubilate Choir Director
 Steven Inghram—Children & Music Minister
 Pat Clark—Organist
 Dianne Forwood—Morning Stars
 Lil Stanton—Hallelujah Ringers
 John Kelley—8:15 Worship Service Pianist
 Ginny Lockwood—KICs Director
 Sound Room—Vince DeMarro, Ginny Lockwood and Rodger Stahl

Administrative Staff

Mary Kerasavich—Church Administrator
 Janet Roushey—Secretary Jeff Dill—Sexton
Board of Early Childhood Development Ministries
 Judy Springer—Chair Kelly Forwood—Director
 Jessica Cheyney Jack Lawler
 Janet Pace Wendy Rollman

February 2012

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5 SOUPER BOWL OF CARING	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13 7:00 p.m. Board of Trustees Meeting (Conference room)	14	15	16	17	18
19	20 PRESIDENT'S DAY—OFFICE CLOSED	21 7:00 p.m. Finance Committee Meeting (Church Office)	22 ASH WEDNESDAY 7:00 p.m. Vesper Service (Sanctuary)	23	24 30-HOUR FAMINE	25 30-HOUR FAMINE
26 NEW MEMBERS BEING RECEIVED	27	28 7:00 p.m. Leadership Council Meeting (Conference Room)	29			

MARCH 2012

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3 8:00 a.m.-12:00 noon Boy Scouts Pancake Breakfast (PFLC)
4	5	6	7 5:00-7:45 p.m. Children's Clothing Turnabout [CCT] (PFLC, Foyers)	8 9:00 a.m.-7:30 p.m. Shop at CCT	9 9:00 a.m.-7:30 p.m. Shop at CCT	10 8:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m. Shop at CCT 1:00-3:45 p.m. Consignor Payout
11	12 7:00 p.m. Board of Trustees Meeting (Conference room)	13	14	15 7:00 p.m. Lenten Vesper Service (Sanctuary)	16 6:00 p.m. Wedding Reh. Tina McClay & Christopher Ladd	17 3:30 p.m. Wedding Tina McClay & Christopher Ladd
18	19	20 7:00 p.m. Finance Committee Meeting (Church Office)	21	22	23	24
25	26	27 7:00 p.m. Leadership Council Meeting (Conference Room)	28	29	30	31

Elam United Methodist Church

1073 Smithbridge Road
Glen Mills, PA 19342
Phone: 610-459-2911
Fax: 610-459-3588
www.elamumc.org

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Current resident or

February/March Highlights

Saturday, February 4 &

Sunday, February 5

9:30 a.m. Souper Bowl of Caring Sunday

Friday & Saturday, February 24 & 25

UMYF—30-Hour Famine

Sunday, February 26

9:30 a.m. New Members being received

Wednesday, March 7

5:00-7:45 p.m. Consign for Children's Clothing Turnabout (CCT)

Thursday & Friday, March 8 & 9

9:00-7:30 p.m. Shop at CCT

Saturday, March 10

8:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m. Shop at CCT

1:00-3:45 p.m. Pick up unsold items

Saturday, March 31st

5:30 p.m. Passion Play (Sanctuary)

Upcoming Events

Sunday, April 1

9:30 a.m. Passion Play (Sanctuary)

Sunday, April 8

9:00 a.m. Easter Worship Service (Sanctuary)

11:00 a.m. Easter Worship Service (Sanctuary)